

## **Defining Cosmopolitanism: European politics of the 21<sup>st</sup> century**

*Anastasia Marinopoulou* – Open University, Greece

The discussion of the political dynamics of cosmopolitanism initiated in the late 20<sup>th</sup> and mostly during the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It concerns the encounter to deal with “the second modernity” attributing to the latter structural distinctiveness referring to the potentiality for consensus, the creation of multiple political and social alternatives, the recognition of the social and political otherness and the consummation of political criteria discursively produced.

The aim of the announcement is to contextualise the demand of current European societies to face for the first time in their history multiple complexities primarily on the issues of immigration, environmental policy and the existing political and legal systems. It is exactly the ambivalences and diversities on the previously referred social and political areas that give shape to the second modernity.

The attempt to theorise EU should probably shift the focus from apolitical official politics towards unofficial political politics. State political decisions and options as well as specific policies appear to hold back the formation of a diverse and therefore viable political perspective. Especially in terms of communication, a different, more functional but concurrently more rational form is required, where the politically active should include the socially dynamic, and where political systems of localised or expanded character should deal with what any political and social inclusion of the “other” consists of, namely with the incorporation of any form of social, political or economic diversity.